

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device for depositing sheets for a printing machine, ~~preferably an electrophotographically operating printing machine,~~ said device comprising:  
at least one rotating drivable sheet transport element, ~~which is designed to receive or grasp~~ a leading edge of a sheet and deposit said sheet on a stack after said sheet has traveled a path of rotation; and ~~comprising~~  
at least one drag element for pulling a sheet that has been deposited on the stack toward a mechanical stop, ~~characterized in that the said drag element is coupled with the rotation of the sheet transport element and is arranged in such a manner that said drag element can assume an inoperative position within the region covered said path of rotation by the rotating sheet transport element and that said drag element, in order to perform its dragging function, can be moved at least partially out of the region covered said path of rotation by the rotating sheet transport element, whereby said drag element does not disrupt the transport and deposition of the sheet because said drag element is mostly in its inoperative position within the circle of rotation of said sheet transport element.~~
2. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that the further including a pivoting element, wherein said drag element is linked by said pivoting element to said sheet transport element in such a manner that it said drag element can be pivoted.~~
3. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in Claim 2, ~~characterized in that the wherein said pivoting element is linked in such a manner that, during its rotation in the region of the stack, it folds out into its dragging position due~~

to its weight and, in the course of the path of rotation, folds in again into its inoperative position.

4. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in Claim 3, ~~characterized in that the wherein~~, in order to achieve the effect of weight, a weight element is connected with the said drag element.
5. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in Claim 4, ~~characterized in that the wherein said weight element substantially has the configuration of is~~ an arm.
6. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in one of the previous Claims 5, ~~characterized in that the wherein said~~ he drag element is substantially arm-shaped and its free end points essentially in a direction opposite the rotary motion.
7. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in Claims ~~5 and 6~~, ~~characterized in that the wherein said~~ arm-shaped weight element and the said arm-shaped drag element are connected with each other substantially approximating a V-shape, and that, around their region of connection, a pivoting axis is provided for their joint pivoting motion.
8. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in one of the previous Claims ~~7~~, ~~characterized in that the wherein~~ at least two coaxially rotatable cooperating sheet transport elements are provided, the first sheet transport element featuring a generated surface acting as a support for the sheet, thus essentially predetermining a path of curvature for the sheet to be transported, and the second sheet transport element ~~comprising including~~ at least one overlap element to overlap the received leading edge of the sheet in such a manner that the leading edge of the sheet can be grasped between said overlap element and said generated surface.

9. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~  
~~the wherein said~~ drag element is coupled with ~~the said~~ second sheet  
transport element, and that ~~the said~~ drag element, in its inoperative position,  
is ~~substantially configured and~~ positioned, viewed from the front side of ~~the~~  
~~said device~~, ~~approximately~~ in such a manner that said drag element is  
congruent with said overlap element.
10. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in Claim 8 ~~or 9~~, ~~characterized in~~  
~~that the wherein said~~ first sheet transport element has ~~substantially~~ the  
shape of a disk ~~or wheel~~.
11. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in ~~one of the~~ Claims 8 through 10,  
~~characterized in that the wherein said~~ second sheet transport element is  
~~substantially configured as~~ a two-armed pivotable jib which has, in the  
region of its two radially outward extending free ends, an overlap element  
~~each~~, in which case a drag element is assigned to each overlap element.
12. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in ~~one of the~~ Claims 8 through 11,  
~~characterized in that the wherein said~~ overlap element is configured  
~~substantially as~~ a tongue ~~or loop~~, which follows the path of curvature of ~~the~~  
~~said~~ first sheet transport element in ~~a an~~ approximately parallel manner.
13. (Currently Amended)-~~Device~~ A device as in ~~one of the previous~~ Claims 12,  
~~characterized in that the wherein~~, respectively, at least two first and at  
least two second coaxial sheet transport elements are provided, which are  
located relative to each other on a joint axis in a mirror-symmetrical manner,  
and that ~~the said~~ two second sheet transport elements are arranged between  
~~the said~~ two first sheet transport elements, so that a leading edge of a sheet  
can be grasped in its course parallel to the joint axis of the sheet transport  
elements by a total of at least four sheet transport elements together, and that  
a drag element is assigned to each of the overlap elements.
14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)
16. (Currently Amended)-~~Device A~~ device as in ~~one of the previous Claims 13,~~  
~~characterized by wherein~~ at least one guide element that blocks one of the  
grasped sheets at least in centrifugal direction and is interposed between a  
pickup site and a release site of the sheet, in order to maintain the radius of  
curvature of the sheet by force.
17. (Currently Amended)-~~Device A~~ device as in ~~one of the previous Claims 16,~~  
~~characterized by wherein~~ at least one shifting element coupled with at least  
one of the said sheet transport elements for transversely shifting a sheet to  
be deposited ~~in a manner substantially~~ parallel to the joint axis of the said  
sheet transport elements.